

Applicants have carefully considered the Examiner's objections to the specification. Trademarks and tradenames appearing in the specification have been capitalized in accordance with the Examiner's request. Proposed changes to the drawings are attached which provide item numbers for each element of the cartridge which have been expressly recited in the claims and item numbers for those elements which the Examiner pointed out were missing. Also, arrows in the drawings which were not associated with an element number have been deleted.

The Examiner has requested a more detailed description of the devices illustrated in Figs. 3a-i and 7a-c. The specification at page 15, lines 1-8 and page 21, line 1 to page 23, line 3 appear to provide adequate disclosure for one of skill in the art to understand the operation of the devices, or subparts thereof, illustrated in the respective drawings. As described on page 15, various shapes of antimigration barbs are shown in Figs. 3a-i and the significance of such antimigration barbs has already been explained at page 6, lines 4-6 and again at the top of page 15 as preventing movement of the implant until tissue infiltration is sufficient to anchor the prosthetic in place. An example of the use of the loading and delivery tool is explained in great detail from page 21 to page 23 and in connection with Figs. 7a-c. That specific disclosure taken together with the detailed description of the loading and

delivery device on page 17, line 14 to page 20, line 21 clearly describe and make plain the significance of the technique shown in the drawings. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is requested.

The recitation of an application at page 4, first paragraph is appropriate since that document is being incorporated by reference. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Claims 48-49 and 52-54 have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Withdrawal of the Section 112 rejection is requested.

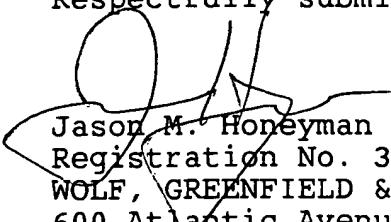
Claim 48 also has been amended to recite that the distal end of the delivery device is constructed and arranged for receipt in the lumen of the trocar cannula. Prior to amendment, claim 48 recited that the device was constructed and arranged for mounting to the trocar cannula. The subject matter of the invention need not be so narrowly claimed and, accordingly, claim 48 has been broadened. New claims 73-74, which depend from amended claim 48, have been added to define a delivery device which is mountable to a trocar cannula.

New claims 75-76 have been added to more completely cover certain aspects of the invention. Claim 75 recites a combination of an implantable prosthesis and a loading and delivery apparatus. Claim 76 recites a method of using a loading and delivery apparatus to deliver an implantable

prosthesis to a trocar cannula. No new matter has been added and support for the newly added claims is found throughout the text and drawings of the specification.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration of this application and its early allowance are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Enclosure - Proposed Drawing Corrections

D.N. 11-293  
APPROVED  
FORENSIC  
(FIGS 5(b)  
& 3(a)-3(iv))

Fig. 5(b)

